(b) whether it is a fact that prolonged idleness of the Haldia Plant would be a bigger problem than the problems faced by the project during the Commissioning period;

(d) whether liability has been fixed on officials responsible for such in decision;

(d) whether Government intend to bring out a white paper on Haldia Project; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) to (e) Letter of intent for setting up a Petrochemicals Project at Haldia has been granted to West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC) in August, 1990. Foreign collaboration tie-ups and import of capital goods have been approved recently.

In view of the above, the question of idleness revival of the Plant, does not arise.

3755. [*Transferred to the 25th March*, 1992].

New packaging material norms for pharmaceutical industry

3756. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accepted the new packaging meterial norms for the pharmaceutical industry ;

(b) if so, what are these norms and by when these would be implemented;

(c) whether these norms would push up the prices further; and

(d) if not, how the additional costs would be absorbed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Based on the study Report of BICP with regard o packing material charges, Government have since revised the packing material norms which are confindential in nature.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, the extent of increase will not be much.

Development of Konkan Region

3757. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the backward Konkan region which is emerging as the country's foremost chemical belt is being developed; and

(b) if so, the details there of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Industrial Licence for Drugs

3758. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it a fact that Government have decided to do away with industrial licence for some drugs produced in the country;

(b) what are the drugs Government have decided to delicence; and

(c) what are the drugs which would remain for industrial Licences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) to (c) The Drug Policy is still under review.

Reduction in fertilizer subsidy

3759. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN : Will t he PRIME MINIST R be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that at the time of reduction in fertilizers subsidies, the stocks already lying with the distributing agencies were sold at old rates to farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a result of an agitation by Punjab Unit of Bharti Kisan Union, a big scandal was unearthed in which old stocks of fertilizers were sold at New rates to farmers; many officers of Agriculture Department were suspended and an inquiry officer was appointed to go deeper into the scandal; and

(c) whether Government would assure that excess amount charged from the farmers, would be returned to them, or alternatively whether Government would release equivalent stock of fertilizer to be sold to farmers at old rate ?